

## Message Text

LIMI\*ED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 16089 271638Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 TRSE-00 O B-01

SCI-06 SCEM-02 FPC-01 IO-14 ACDA-19 NIC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 DOTE-00

DRC-01 /168 W

----- 102183

R 271521Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4893

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 16089

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG ETRN UR

SUBJECT: HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET OFFICIALS DISCLOSE CONTINUING

ENERGY PROBLEMS IN USR

REF: MOSCOW 13662

1. SUMMARY: EMBOFF ATTENDED RECENT ZNANIYE SOCIETY LECTURE  
DEALING WITH FUEL AND ENERGY RESOURCES IN USSR. PRACTICI-  
PANTS IN LECTURE REPRESENTED "WHO'S WHO" OF SOVIET ENERGY  
SCENE, AND INCLUDED SUCH LUMINARIES AS MINISTER OF PETROLEUM  
INDUSTRY, MINISTER OF POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION, AND CHAIR-  
MAN OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. DISCUS-  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 16089 271638Z

SION REVEALED ACUTE PROBLEMS IN AREAS OF OIL AND GAS EXTRAC-  
TION, RELIABLE AND ECONOMICAL TRANSPORTATION OF ALL FORMS O

ELS, AND, ESPECIALLY NOTEWORTHY, SUPPLY OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY IN EUROPEAN SECTION OF COUNTRY. END SUMMARY.

2. SPEAKER EMPHASIZED TREMENDOUS RESOURCES OF ALL KINDS OF MINERAL FUELS IN USSR, BUT ALSO STRESSED UNAVAILABILITY OF MUCH OF IT AS ENERGY SOURCE DUE TO GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND LOW TECHNOLOGICAL LEVEL OF EXTRACTING INDUSTRIES, WHICH GREATLY HINDERS EXPLOITATION. FIRST DEPMIN OF GAS INDUSTRY STATED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT TYUMEN' FIELDS CONTAIN MUCH MORE GAS THAN COUNTRY AS WHOLE COULD CONSUME IN NEXT 15-20 YEARS BUT THAT "WE ARE UNABLE TO USE IT" (UPOTREBLYAT' EGO NE MOZHEM) DUE TO SHORTAGE OF QUALITY PIPES, COMPRESSORS, AND OTHER EQUIPMENT.

3. SPEAKERS ALL OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT DIFFICULTIES IN PROVIDING USABLE FUELS TO INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS. ACADEMICIAN STYRIKOVICH (SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS-TECHNICAL PROBLEMS OF POWER ENGINEERING, ACADEMY OF SCIENCES) STATED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT IN SPITE OF ATTEMPTS TO SHIFT INDUSTRY TO SIBERIA, I.E., CLOSER TO ENERGY RESOURCES INCLUDING VAST HYDROELECTRIC POTENTIAL, EUROPE\*N PART OF USSR WILL ALWAYS CONSUME AT LEAST TWO THIRDS OF ALL ENERGY IN COUNTRY. THIS DISCUSSION TOOK TWO MAJOR DIRECTIONS: ?IMPROVING TRANSPORT SYSTEM (CURRENTLY WOEFULLY INADEQUATE, IT WAS ADMITTED) AND REDOUBLIN\* EFFORTS\*TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF COAL, OIL, \*AND GAS IN EUROPEAN USSR.?

4. MINISTER OF POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION NEPOROZHNIY PAINTED PARTICULARLY GLOOMY PICTURE OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY SUPPLY SITUATION IN EUROPEAN USSR, STATING CANDIDLY THAT THIS PART OF COUNTRY IN MIDST OF POWER HUNGER (ENERGETICHESKIY GOLOD). ON ONE HAND, THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF FUELS TO OPERATE POWER GENERATING STATIONS AT FULL CAPACITY; ON OTHER HAND, POWER INDUSTRY STILL NOT CAPABLE TECHNICALLY OF TRANSFERRING ELECTRIC POWER EFFICIENTLY FROM SIBERIAN HYDROELECTRIC STATIONS TO EUROPEAN USSR. FURTHER, COUNTRY RUNNING BEHIND PLAN GOALS IN CONSTRUCTION OF NEW POWER STATIONS DUE TO SHORTFALL IN LEVEL OF CAPITAL INVESTMENTS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 16089 271638Z

5. COMMENT\* LEVEL OF SPEAKERS AT LECTURE LENDS CONSIDERABLE AUTHORITY TO THEIR STATEMENTS. COUNTRY CLEARLY FACING CONTINUING LONG-TERM PROBLEMS IN EXTRACTING ENOUGH FUEL TO SATISFY NEEDS OF INDUSTRY AND POWER GRID AND, PARTICULARLY, IN TRANSPORTING THESE FUELS TO PLACES OF CONSUMPTION. INTENSIFICATION OF FUEL EXTRACTION IN EUROPEAN USSR MAY ALLEVIATE SITUATION OVER SHORT TERM, BUT IN LONG RUN CAN ONLY HAVE SAME UNFORTUNATE RESULTS AS DID STRIPPING OF FORESTS IN EUROPEAN SECTION. END COMMENT

6. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, QUARTER-PAGE ARTICLE IN DEC 26  
MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA, DEALING WITH MOSCOW CPSU GORKOM MEETING,  
IS DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO REPORT BY VP. ISAYEV, FIRST DEPUTY  
CHAIRMAN OF MOSCOW CITY\*COUNCIL, ON MEASURES BEING  
TAKEN IN CAPITAL TO SAVE FUEL AND ENERGY RESO RCES DURING  
UPCOMING WINTER PERIOD. CITY MANAGERS, ENTERPRISE DIRECTORS,  
TRANSPORT WORKERS, AND THOSE ENGAGED IN CONSTRUCTION ARE  
EXHORTED TO TAKE ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES TO SAVE FUEL AND  
ELECTRICITY. AT SAME TIME, STATED ISAYEV, ENERGY-SAVING  
CAMPAIGN SHOULD NOT RESULTIN NEGATIVE EFFECT ON SUPPLY  
OF HEAT TOAPARTMENTS, KINDERGARTENS, HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS,  
AND STORES.

7. DETAILS OF LECTURE FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM.SOMMERLATTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, SUPPLIES, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MOSCOW16089  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t1973125/aaaaadmp.tel  
**Line Count:** 129  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** MOSCOW 13662  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <30-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET OFFICIALS DISCLOSE CONTINUING ENERGY PROBLEMS IN USSR  
**TAGS:** ENRG, ETRN, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005